

Standard 7-6 The student will demonstrate an understanding of international developments in the post-World War II world, including the impact of the Cold War on the world.

7-6.4 Compare features of nationalist and independence movements in different regions in the post-World War II period, including Mohandas Gandhi's role in the nonviolence movement for India's independence and the emergence of nationalist movements in African and Asian countries. (H, P)

Taxonomy Level: B 2 Understand/Conceptual Knowledge

Previous/future knowledge:

This is the first time students have been taught about nationalist and independence movements in different regions in the post-World War II period, including Mohandas Gandhi and movements in African and Asian countries.

In Global Studies, students will compare the challenges and successes of the movements toward independence and democratic reform in various regions following World War II, including the role of political ideology, religion, and ethnicity in shaping governments and the course of independence and democratic movements in Africa, Asia, and Latin America (GS-6.3).

It is essential for students to know the role of nationalist movements in Asian and African countries and how independence was achieved in both regions. The nationalist movement in India gained strength after WWI but the conflict between the Hindus and Muslims created an obstacle to independence from the British. The Indian National Congress consisted of mainly Hindus, while the Muslims had their own organization called the Muslim League. The Muslims feared that the Hindus would dominate the new government whenever independence was achieved. As the leader of the independence movement, Mohandas Gandhi, focused on using civil disobedience, or nonviolence. He called for boycotts of British goods and encouraged Indians to make their own clothing rather than buying clothing from the British. The British forced the Indians to buy salt from them exclusively, so Gandhi organized the Salt March, in which the Indians collected saltwater from the sea in order to make their own salt. Gandhi also protested British rule by fasting. Gandhi's nonviolent methods were very effective, as the boycotts hurt the British economically. In 1935 the British gave the Indians self-rule and after WWII ended, the British were ready to give India its independence. The colony was expensive to run, and the British had to recover economically after the war. The British, however, worried about the animosity between the Hindus and Muslims. As a result, the British decided to divide the Indian subcontinent into two states: India would be for the Hindus, and the country of Pakistan would be created for the Muslims. The British gave the two nations independence in 1947, and millions of Hindus and Muslims moved to their new countries. During the migration, violence occurred between the two groups and approximately 1 million people were killed.

The two countries also fought over the region of Kashmir after independence was granted. India controlled the region, but most of its residents were Muslims. The United Nations eventually enforced a cease-fire between the two countries, gave Pakistan 1/3 of Kashmir, and gave India control of the rest of the region. India and Pakistan still argue and disagreement over ownership of Kashmir continues today. The country of Pakistan also had strife from within. The country's government was located in West Pakistan, and the people of East Pakistan felt ignored by West Pakistan. East Pakistan declared independence in 1971, and called itself Bangladesh. A civil war then ensued between Pakistan and Bangladesh. Assisted by India, Bangladesh prevailed.

Countries in Southeast Asia also achieved independence after WWII. The Philippines became independent from the United States, and the British colonies of Sri Lanka, Burma, Malaysia, and Singapore became independent. Indonesia was granted its independence from the Dutch.

It is essential for students to recognize the similarities and differences between the independence movements in Africa and India. In Africa, as well, nationalist movements gained momentum after WWII. Many African colonies wanted to free themselves from European rule and African leaders emerged to lead the independence movements. Ghana was the first African country to receive independence in 1957. Kwame Nkrumah led his people to independence by organizing boycotts and strikes just as Ghandi had done in India. Other nations, however, had to use force in order to gain independence. Algerian independence from the French was violently won. Algerians organized themselves in the Algerian National Liberation Front and fought against hundreds of thousands of French troops who were sent to suppress the nationalists. Algeria prevailed and won independence in 1962. In Kenya, many British settlers were opposed to giving Kenya its independence. Jomo Kenyatta, who was the primary nationalist leader, claimed he had no connection to the Mau Mau, Kenyans who used guerilla warfare tactics to fight the British settlers. The British imprisoned Kenyatta for his lack of criticism of the actions of the Mau Mau. Kenya received independence in 1963, and Kenyatta became its first president. Angola fought to free itself of Portuguese rule. The Congo, on the other hand, is an example of an African country that experienced civil war and social unrest *after* receiving independence as had been the practice under imperialism, colonial rule had exploited the colonies' resources, and the Africans had not been trained to run their own political institutions. Rival ethnicities would not cooperate, and civil wars often erupted, allowing dictatorships to be established, which brought instability to the region.

It is not essential for students to know the specific military details of the independence movements in Asia and Africa.

Assessment guidelines: Appropriate assessment should require students to **compare** independence movements in Asia, primarily in India, with those in Africa. Students should be able to **infer** the impact of the nationalist movements.

